

Sustainability, urbanization and (socio-) technology policies

The common thread running through this line of research is its examination of the management of change processes, either with a top-down (as in the case of smart cities) or bottom-up (e.g. p2p) approach. As for sustainability, the main focus is on socio-environmental flows and technology. It explores in particular environmental governance redesign processes in the context of technological and social change and the climate crisis, with particular emphasis on the hydro-climatic dimension and urban resilience in different contexts. As regards urbanization, it examines the urbanization of digital capitalism, i.e. the political economy of current urban restructuring processes led by the transformation of digital economies and societies on multiple scales. Particular attention is paid to new technology-mediated urban models, but without ignoring matters such as access to housing. In relation to (socio-)technology policies, it examines collaborative knowledge creation processes (co-creation/co-production) in digital and non-digital environments linked to urban transformation from the standpoint of social innovation. Both community initiatives in informal settings and citizen participation in formal settings are examined to gain a critical view of the political, ecological, social and cultural dimensions of learning and the co-production and transfer of knowledge. Finally, this line of research studies open science, technology and innovation, particularly projects and initiatives involving lay people or unofficial experts in the construction of scientific knowledge or technical artefacts, as well as the new configurations between science and society. Our aim is to examine the influence of public participation and wider-reaching social engagement on the construction of science and technology. The analytical background is based on Science and Technology Studies (STS).